

Payton Highlights - Moesville

It's been a long time since I saw you back in good 'ol Moesville. I remember you leaving just a few weeks after the beatings began. You said you couldn't stand to watch, and then you walked out the door and jumped into the cab to New York.

I just don't know what to do anymore. You left and the town fell apart. Town events disappeared, morale sunk, jobs declined and this crime rose. Where once I was in court for my minor thefts, I now receive less than a slap on the wrist for flashing women and children. Oh...right.... I also contribute to the crime. I took up flashing.

I don't see this change coming too soon. Young families pick safe towns to settle in, not towns with record crime rates. I worry that I will certainly not see the recovery of Moesville in my lifetime but will see its end. I am serving my last year on the force and I see the changes that need to be made. My generation has a lot of wisdom to offer, but our time is running out. The young folks need to take the initiative now; it's for them this town will matter.

You know I'm a seer, a noticer. When the changes started, they became reflected onto my brain. People would look anxious or depressed, and would be pessimistic. I am, however, an optimist. I think with some enthusiasm we could be just fine and start to flourish again instead of collapsing into dust. That goes for me too. I almost always used to feel upbeat. It could be age, but now I'm calm on the street and not bouncing along seeing inspiration everywhere. I feel more calm now, but not weary.

I have been living in Moesville forever. It is my one and only home. I have never felt as comfortable as I do here anywhere else. Though there were some rough times, those make the bond stronger and make me feel like I should be here even more. This place needs me, especially in this time of decline. Or declining, I should say.

They call me Genie. Something to do with luck and wisdom, they tell me. I play along. I fill their images again, shallow with hope but a potent ale. For years they've come in looking for answers....